



CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

- **Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.,** Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility work force safely processed 13,110 VX-filled 155 mm projectiles and 7,977 gallons of VX during August.
- **Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah,** Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility has safely disposed of 2,063 mustard agent-filled ton containers as of Sept. 23. Mustard operations began in August 2006.
- **Newport Chemical Depot, Ind.,** Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility has safely neutralized nearly 65 percent of the Newport VX agent stockpile. The U.S. has received credit for destroying 1,084,411 pounds of the Newport stockpile under the Chemical Weapons Convention. On Aug. 26, workers attained a safety milestone of 1 million employee hours worked without a work-related injury or illness that resulted in a lost workday.
- **Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark.,** Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility continued changeover from GB to VX rocket processing. The Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Automatic Continuous Air Monitoring System was adjusted to monitor for VX agent, the Deactivation Furnace System (DFS) Pollution Abatement System was started up and the DFS afterburner was brought up to normal operating temperature.
- **Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.,** Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility workers continue inspecting and repairing the plant's furnaces during a planned changeover to prepare for processing VX agent. All 48,220 "refractory" bricks lining one of the liquid incineration systems were removed and replaced during a 33-day period. VX disposal operations are expected to begin by year's end.
- **Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project's** Explosive Destruction System at Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark., has destroyed approximately 65 percent of its total recovered chemical warfare munitions. Also, 177 German Traktor rockets have been separated and the Ton Container Decontamination Facility has completed its pre-operation activities and will begin operations in October.

CMA CHANGES CHARTER

Col. Robert Billington Takes Reins as New CSE Project Manager

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) celebrated a changing of the guard on Sept. 10 as it welcomed new leadership to a major position within the program. Col. Robert Billington was installed as the new Project Manager for Chemical Stockpile Elimination (CSE), replacing Col. Jesse Barber in a change of charter ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Col. Barber served as the first Project Manager for CSE, formed in May 2006. Prior to that, he was the Project Manager for the Alternative Technologies and Approaches Project, which was combined with the Chemical Stockpile Disposal Project to form CSE.

"Jesse has done a stellar job at CMA. He has been the driving force in the safe off-site disposal of hydrolysate, saving American taxpayers untold millions of dollars. I commend him for his determination and dedication," said Dale Ormond, Acting CMA Director.

During his tenure at CMA, Col. Barber oversaw many other project milestones—reaching the 45 percent agent destruction Chemical Weapons Convention milestone, destruction of the nerve agent GB at all CSE sites, the start of operations at the Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility and closure of the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, the first continental United States facility to completely destroy its stockpile and close.

"Without the hard work of CMA's work force, meeting each milestone would have been a dream instead of reality," said Col. Barber. "I am proud that I have been a part of this mission."

Moving from Maryland to Alabama, Col. Barber will be Chief of Staff for the Missile Defense Agency, Ground-Based Midcourse Defense System at Redstone Arsenal.



Col. Robert Billington and Acting CMA Director Dale Ormond applaud Col. Jesse Barber for his work as the Project Manager for Chemical Stockpile Elimination (PMCSE). Col. Billington was installed as the new PMCSE, replacing Col. Barber.

As the incoming CSE Project Manager, and a member of CMA senior management, Col. Billington helps develop strategy and oversees daily operations at the chemical demilitarization sites at Anniston Army Depot, Ala., Newport Chemical Depot, Ind., Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark., Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah, and Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore. Facilities at Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colo., and Blue Grass Army

Depot, Ky., are under construction in a separate Department of Defense program.

Col. Billington joins CMA with 26 years of military experience, most recently serving as the Chief of the Joint U.S. Military Affairs

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Group-Korea. Prior to that, he was Director of Defense Cooperation in Armaments at the U.S. Embassy, Seoul. He has both combat and Army program business management experience.

Accepting his new command, Col. Billington said, "The safe elimination of chemical weapons is an important mission for the U.S. Army, the nation and the world. I am honored to be a part of the CMA team to work toward our goal of 100 percent destruction."



ANCDF SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES AGENT TRIAL BURNS

Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) successfully completed the VX Metal Parts Furnace agent trial burns, the last of three scheduled furnace trial burns for the VX agent campaign. The Liquid Incinerator and Deactivation Furnace System VX agent trial burns were completed in October 2006.

Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) personnel observed each of the runs and reported no outstanding issues. The ANCDF Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit requires that at this point processing be limited to 50 percent of the agent feed rate established in the trial burns. Once the preliminary report is approved by ADEM, ANCDF will be able to process at 75 percent agent feed rate. Processing at 100 percent agent feed rate will be permitted once ADEM approves the final trial burn report.

HURRICANE HUMBERTO HITS VEOLIA: *Key Planning Secures Hydrolysate*

When Hurricane Humberto hit the Texas coast on Sep. 13 with heavy rains and 85 mile-per-hour winds, precautionary measures were already in place at Veolia Environmental Services. Currently under contract with the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency, Veolia is responsible for the disposal of waste from Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (NECDF) in Indiana. The last shipment of trucks from Newport for the week arrived at Veolia the night before the hurricane landed and were secured under cover prior to the hurricane coming on shore.

"The decision to take the incinerator complex offline when Hurricane Humberto was predicted to hit the Veolia area is an example of CMA's commitment to public safety. No one knew how the hurricane would develop or where it was going to hit, so the safest thing to do was to get the trucks off the road, secure the hydrolysate that was already shipped and wait out the storm," said Acting CMA Director Dale Ormond.

Hurricane Humberto, the first hurricane to hit the United States in two years, made

landfall near Beaumont, Texas, in the general vicinity of Veolia. Representatives from Veolia reported to the Army that the facility survived the hurricane with minimal damage. There was some loose sheet metal damage at the plant but no other substantial damage. All waste at the facility was secure, including tanks that hold the hydrolysate once it is offloaded from its transportation vehicles.

As of Sept. 12, the Newport Chemical Depot and NECDF have neutralized the drained contents

of almost 1,100 of the nearly 1,700 original ton containers of bulk VX agent. The Army, Veolia and Tri-State Motors, the sub-contractor to Veolia in charge of transporting the liquid

Newport hydrolysate to Texas, have safely shipped 169 intermodal containers to the Veolia facility. This has resulted in the equivalent of more than 1 million pounds of VX disposal credit for the United States as outlined by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the international governing body in charge of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

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—Dale Ormond, Acting CMA Director

GOING, GOING...GONE

Yet another milestone has been met as closure activities continue at Deseret Chemical Depot's Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System (CAMDS). More than 30 years after it was built, the 120 foot CAMDS water tower came crashing down. Just as planned, the top of the tower hit the lonely orange "target" cone nestled in the sagebrush.

